

Appl. No. 09/603,184
Amdt. Dated November 20, 2003
Reply to Office Action of August 15, 2003

Attorney Docket No. 81784.0211
Customer No.: 26021

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-9 are pending in the Application. By this Amendment, claims 4 and 6 are being amended to improve their form, and new claim 10 is being added, to advance the prosecution of the Application. No new matter is involved.

In Paragraph 2 which begins on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1, 3-6, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,828,467 of Suzuki. In Paragraph 4 which begins on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 2 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki '467. In Paragraph 6 on page 5 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,929,936 of Arai et al. In Paragraph 8 on page 6 of the Office Action, claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arai et al. '936. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

In Paragraph 9 at the bottom of page 6 of the Office Action, claims 4-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The following Paragraph 10 points out that, with respect to claim 4, the limitation "a selection circuit for selecting either the output signal from said interpolation circuit or said detected radio signal", in lines 3 and 4 thereof, makes it unclear as to how the detected radio signal is selected. In response, Applicants are amending claim 4 to recite "a first delay circuit for delaying said detected radio signal" with the selection circuit then being defined as "for selecting either the output signal from said interpolation circuit or the delayed detected radio signal from said first delay circuit". In view of this Amendment to claim 4, the recitation of a first delay circuit in claim 6 is being deleted therefrom. Therefore, claims 4-9 are now submitted to be clear and definite.

Apart from the amendments noted above to cure an indefiniteness problem, claims 1-9 are submitted to clearly distinguish patentably over the prior art in their present form.

The Suzuki '467 Patent has been carefully reviewed. This Patent shows image processing in which an image is divided into blocks, and data processing is done, block-by-block. The noise which is described in Suzuki is not, however, pulse noise in a radio signal. Suzuki does not disclose or suggest the features of (1) data interpolation processing on a detected radio signal, and (2) interpolation using an output signal from an interpolation circuit, in the manner of the present invention.

The Arai '936 Patent has also been carefully reviewed. This reference shows interpolation processing, but the interpolation is not directed to noise cancellation. Therefore, the reference does not describe or even suggest to interpolation of a noise portion using a signal output from an interpolation circuit.

Claims 1-9 are submitted to clearly distinguish patentably over the cited references. In independent claim 1, for example, the noise cancel circuit for removing noise components in a detected radio signal is said to comprise "an interpolation circuit for performing interpolation processing on said detected radio signal" and wherein "during generation of a pulse noise, a noise portion of said detected radio signal is interpolated by an output signal from said interpolation circuit". As discussed above, the prior art does not disclose or suggest such features in accordance with the invention. Claims 2-9 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1 and add further limitations thereto. Therefore, claims 1-9 are submitted to clearly distinguish patentably over the art. New claim 10 depends from and further defines claim 1 in terms of the radio signal being an audio signal. Therefore, such claim is also submitted to clearly distinguish patentably over the art.

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In conclusion, claims 1-10 are submitted to clearly distinguish patentably over the prior art, and claims 4-9 are submitted to be clear and definite in view of the amendments to claims 4 and 6. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

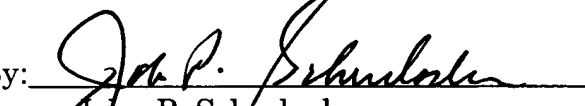
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6846 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: November 20, 2003

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